

BRYAN AS PROPHET FAILS TO QUALIFY

Disasters He Foretold Never Come
to Pass.

OPPOSITE IS ALWAYS TRUE.

Gold Standard Does Not Slay, Nor
Does It Write Future In Blood.

As a prophet William Jennings Bryan has never been a success. The calamities which he has foretold would have brought unlimited disaster to the country if they had ever been realized. But they never came to pass. The harrowing pictures which he painted were merely figments of his imagination, based on absolutely no foundation whatever.

It is well to have Americans remember that prophecies uttered by the orator of the Platte must be discounted fully 100 per cent, for all signs indicate that he feels the fates once more and is about to begin prophesying again. A male Cassandra, Mr. Bryan might by this time have learned that the forecast of evil will never be believed by those who have found that in the past his vaticinations have been but empty air.

"Driving Country to Ruin."

For instance, when Mr. Bryan was a member of the House of Representatives in 1892 he was absolutely certain that protection was driving the country headlong to rack and ruin, and in his speech delivered March 16 of that year he drew the following agonizing pictures:

"Protection has been our cannibal tree, and as one after another of our farmers has been driven by the force of circumstances upon that tree and has been crushed within its folds his companions have stood around and shouted, 'Great is protection.' . . . Thus in every State, so far as these statistics have been collected, the proportion of home owning farmers is decreasing and that of tenant farmers increasing. This means but one thing. It means a land of landlords and tenants, and backed by the history of every nation that has gone down, I say to you that no people can continue a free people under a free government when the great majority of its citizens are tenants of a small minority. Your system (protective tariff) has driven the farm owner from his land and substituted the farm tenant."

How far this picture portrays the America of to-day or the America of any year since he made that speech any American can answer. Even in Mr. Bryan's own State he can find an answer right at his doors, for the farms of Nebraska have doubled in value.

"Murderous Gold Standard."

But during the four years succeeding that speech Mr. Bryan's agitation grew no less nor did the demon which he had raised in his own imagination hide with diminished head, for in 1896 he again saw destitution threatening the country. He had a remedy for it, a panacea, a fetish which he held up for worship—free silver. Here are some of the things Mr. Bryan said would happen if the gold standard were continued:

"I reply that if protection has slain its thousands the gold standard has slain its tens of thousands."—From speech at Democratic National Convention, July, 1896.

"Do not let the Republicans beguile you about the future. The future is written in blood crushed out of you by gold."—From speech at Erie, Pa., August, 1896.

"Ah, my friends, there is another reason why people have gone into the cities and left the farms. It is because your legislation has been causing the foreclosure of mortgages upon the farms. . . . Mark my words! If the gold standard goes on and people continue to complain, the gold standard advocates instead of trying to improve the condition of the people will be recommending that you close your schools so that the people will not realize how much they are suffering."—From speech at Monmouth, Ill., October, 1896.

But whom has the gold standard slain? What future did it write in blood? What district schools did it close? Again the condition of the country makes a calm reply confuting the impassioned orator.

Campaigning again in 1900 Mr. Bryan decided that imperialism was an other danger to the country. If it were continued the Fourth of July would be forgotten by all Americans and the "spirit of '76" would become a thing of the past. Speaking at Lincoln, Mr. Bryan said:

Sees Death of Patriotism.

"The fight this year will be to carry out the sentiment of that song we have so often repeated, 'My Country, 'Tis of Thee.' If we lose, our children and our children's children will not succeed to the spirit of that song, and celebrations of the Fourth of July will pass away, for the spirit of the empire will be upon us."

Is there any spot in these United States where the spirit of 1776 is dead

and forgotten and the Fourth of July a meaningless date on the calendar? One of the most ridiculous of these prophecies was contained in a speech Mr. Bryan made in support of Judge Parker during the campaign of 1904, when he attacked President Roosevelt fiercely. This prophecy had it that military despotism was sure to follow the decrease in the size of the standing army. In this speech Mr. Bryan also emphasized the fact that he was then and always would be a firm believer in the principle of free silver. He summed up his position on this question in the following sentence:

"I believe to-day in the principles set forth at Chicago and Kansas City (18 to 1) and shall continue to fight for those principles."

THE VERMONT ELECTION.

Result of Victory Indicates Undiminished Majorities for Republicans in November.

Raymond, the Washington correspondent of the Chicago Tribune, who is regarded as one of the most reliable political writers in the country, regards the result of the Vermont election as presaging absolute victory for Mr. Taft. In a recent special dispatch to the Tribune Raymond said:

"Practically speaking, the result of Tuesday's election is more favorable to the Republicans than they had any right to expect, because there has been a determined campaign for the purpose of making a good showing in Vermont and few of the big guns of the party have been put on the stump there this year."

"There is, of course, a slight falling off in the vote of both Republicans and Democrats, as compared with four years ago, but this was entirely to be expected, because at that time Roosevelt was the nominee of his party for president, and the result in Vermont in that year was merely a forerunner of the tremendous landslide which took place all over the country."

"As it is, the plurality of over 20,000 at yesterday's election is taken to be an indication that, while the campaign this year is not to be a sensational one, the election of Mr. Taft is foreshadowed by a safe majority."

"If Vermont can be taken as an index of the condition of public opinion throughout the country, it means that in the November election, whatever strength the Independence League develops in the other States will come almost exclusively from Bryan and not from Taft."

"The Vermont Democrats, while few in number, are extremely rockribbed in their sentiments. They make a point of going to the polls year after year and carry on a hopeless fight merely because they want to set a good example to the Democrats in other States. In 1896 they repudiated Bryan and the free silver heresy, and they did it largely by staying at home on election day. The result was a plurality of a little over 40,000 for McKinley, which has been a record in Vermont elections. In the State elections of 1900 and 1904 the Democratic vote was practically stationary."

TAFT'S RELIGION.

A Consistent Christian with No Spot Upon His Record of Private Conduct and Public Service.

To dispose of questions which should not be asked as speedily as possible let us say that Mr. Taft is a member of the Unitarian church. That was the church of his parents, and he has never separated himself from it. His wife, however, is an Episcopalian, and he worships more often beside her in her church.

These are the facts, which are utterly and absolutely unimportant. The matter of a man's religion has no rightful place in consideration of his fitness for the presidency. The constitution of the nation, ordained and established "to secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity," expressly places the very suggestion of such thought outside the pale of patriotism.

No words can be clearer than these from our country's fundamental law, "No religious test ever shall be required as a qualification to any office or public trust under the United States."

The numerous queries about Mr. Taft's religious belief shows simply the extent to which his enemies have gone to rouse some prejudice against him. Since there was no spot upon his whole clean record of private conduct and public service to which they could point to Taft's detriment they displayed their willingness to descend to any depth of petty, cowardly, contemptible attack that might do him harm.—Philadelphia North American.

Union Labor Vote.

Hon. William H. Buchanan is one of the leading union men of western New York and in 1907 was the Democratic candidate for assemblyman in Chautauque county. This is what he has to say of the effort of Mr. Gompers to turn the labor vote over to Mr. Bryan:

"I am a union labor man, and I want to say further that no man can carry the labor vote into the Democratic camp. I know how union labor men feel in this city, and three-fourths of them will stand by the Republican party because only in that way have they the assurance of freedom from the business disturbance that Mr. Bryan promises for at least four years if he can be elected. We workmen can't earn wages if workmen are put in office to disturb business and make trouble."

REPUBLICAN PARTY AND LABOR

An Equality of Opportunities Secured for Wage Earners.

William H. Taft's Speech of Acceptance Gives Party Record in Behalf of Labor.

(William H. Taft in his speech of acceptance.)

We come now to the question of labor. One important phase of the policies of the present administration has been an anxiety to secure for the wage-earner an equality of opportunity and such positive statutory protection as shall place him on a level in dealing with his employer.

The Republican party has passed an employers' liability act for interstate railroads, and has established an eight hour law for government employees and on government construction. The essence of the reform effected by the former, is the abolition of the fellow-servant rule and the introduction of the comparative negligence theory by which an employee injured in the service of his employer does not lose all his right to recover because of slight negligence on his part.

Then there is the act providing for compensation for injury to government employees, together with the various statutes requiring safety appliances upon interstate commerce railroads for the protection of their employees and limiting the hours of their employment.

These are all instances of the desire of the Republican party to do justice to the wage-earners.

Doubtless a more comprehensive measure for compensation of government employees will be adopted in the future; the principle in such cases has been recognized and in the necessarily somewhat slow course of legislation will be more fully embodied in definite statutes.

The interests of the employer and the employee never differ except when it comes to a division of the joint profit of labor and capital into dividends and wages. This must be a constant source of periodical discussion between the employer and the employee, as indeed are the other terms of the employment.

To give to employees their proper position in such a controversy, to enable them to maintain themselves against employers having great capital, they may well unite, because in union there is strength, and without it, each individual laborer and employee would be helpless. The promotion of the industrial peace through the instrumentality of the trade agreement is often one of the results of such union when intelligently conducted.

There is a large body of laborers, however, skilled and unskilled, who are not organized into unions. Their rights before the law are exactly the same as those of the union men, and are to be protected with the same care and watchfulness.

In order to induce their employer into a compliance with their request for changed terms of employment, workmen have the right to strike in a body.

They have a right to use such persuasion as they may, provided it does not reach the point of duress, to lead their reluctant co-laborers to join them in their union against their employer, and they have a right, if they choose, to accumulate funds to support those engaged in a strike, to delegate to officers the power to direct the action of the union, and to withdraw themselves and their associates from dealings with or giving custom to those with whom they are in controversy.

TAFT'S KINDNESS TO BLIND.

Overrules Washington Monument Regulation for Benefit of the Sightless.

The kind heartedness of Mr. Taft and his sincere, common sense sympathy with the unfortunate in this world has just been brought to the attention of the blind in a peculiar way.

Away up in the top of the Washington monument, where thousands go to behold the beauties of the nation's capital, the Columbia Polytechnic institute, which seeks to make it possible for the adult blind of the United States to rise above conditions of dependence by becoming self sustaining, placed on sale souvenir post cards manufactured by its blind. Some sentimental persons took the view that this was undignified and succeeded in having the superintendent of public buildings and grounds order the cards removed. F. E. Cleveland, principal of the institute, appealed to Mr. Taft, then secretary of war and within whose jurisdiction came the office of public buildings and grounds. It took only a few words to convince the secretary that the blind should have the benefit of this privilege, and the cards were again placed on sale in the monument.

"For this action," said Principal Cleveland in discussing the incident, "Mr. Taft deserves the gratitude of every blind person, particularly the progressive blind, who are striving to help their less fortunate fellows."

In Georgia the electors must have a majority, and with Watson, Hagen and Chas. pulling away from them the Bryanites are becoming apprehensive.

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Mr. Strain is a citizen of Jackson, pays license to do business here, and is in for any good he can do for our city. His office is in Jackson Jewelry Co. store and, by the way, this store is acknowledged to be the jewelry headquarters of Cape county; low prices and high quality prevail in this modern, well appointed store.

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